

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment responds to the Final Rejection of June 12, 2007.

In the Final Rejection, claims 9 and 10 were considered to be allowable. The claims are presented in proper form and should be allowable. That is, claim 7 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 9, and claim 10 has been made dependent from claim 7.

In the Final Rejection claims 7, 8, 11-3 and 14 were rejected as being anticipated by Newnes, et al., U.S. 6,705,190.

The present invention is directed to a system that is to linearize pieces of material, that is, to make the pieces have flat ends or sides so as to be able to produce linear shapes, such as rectangles or squares. In accordance with the invention, there are any plurality of pairs of parallel saw blades 5a, 5b, 5c and 5d which are spaced apart along the direction of the travel of the pieces of material that are to be worked on. There is a conveyor system along the length of the distance of the spaced apart pairs of saw blades. The conveyor system is formed by a chain 4, 4a, 4b, 4c between each pair of spaced apart saw blades. The chain has teeth and a piece of material to be worked on is held between two teeth of the conveyor chain by a belt that presses it down. As the chain moves between the pair of parallel saw blades, the piece of material being worked on is presented to the pair of saw blades at substantially 90°. Therefore, the pair of saw blades linearize any end of the piece of material that hangs over the conveyor chain. The pieces of material are conveyed successively between the spaced apart pairs of blades. That is, the same piece of the material undergoes successive cuts. All of this is set forth in new main claim 15.

Newnes is directed to a totally different structure and purpose as compared to that of the invention. In the patent, there are lathes 10, 10' that are individually conveyed from a source by a plurality of parallel chains 12 having lugs 11 in a direction D to a head 13 in which there are a plurality of cutting blades 114 (Fig. 2) aligned along the same line and transverse to the direction D of the movement of the lathe pieces. Individual wood lathe pieces also can be moved in a direction A which is transverse to the conveyor direction D by moving them over the longitudinal rollers 20

so that the ends of the pieces 10 can be trimmed by the blades 16 and 18 as shown in Fig. 2. A lathe piece 10 is cut into a plurality of smaller pieces by the saw blades 114, all at the same time.

As seen, the arrangement of Newnes is different from that of the invention as set forth in new main claim 15. In the subject invention, a piece is worked on successively by different pairs of blades as it travels along its working direction. In Newnes, the piece 10 is cut into smaller pieces all at the same time by the plurality of saw blades 114 in the head 13 as it moves in the direction D. Once this cut is made in head 13, there is nothing further done to the piece. While an end of a lathe piece 10 may be cut off, this is done only by a single saw 16 or 18. That is, only one end of a lathe piece 10 is trimmed. At this end trimming stage of the Newnes process there is no passing of a piece to be cut by the parallel blades of a pair of blades at the same time as in the present invention. In the invention, a single piece of material is successively trimmed at successive stages, each stage having a pair of saw blades. Also in the present invention a piece being worked on is held between two teeth of a conveyor chain by a belt. In Newnes, there is no belt for pressing on the lathe piece. Also, a lathe piece is not held between two of the lugs 11, i.e., one on each side of a lathe piece. The lugs 11 are all on the same side.

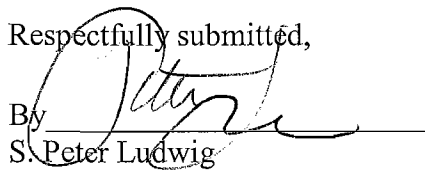
The claims of the invention as now presented patentably distinguish over the art of record.

Prompt and favorable action is requested.

Dated: December 12, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By


S. Peter Ludwig

Registration No.: 25,351

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

P.O. Box 770

Church Street Station

New York, New York 10008-0770

(212) 527-7700

(212) 527-7701 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant